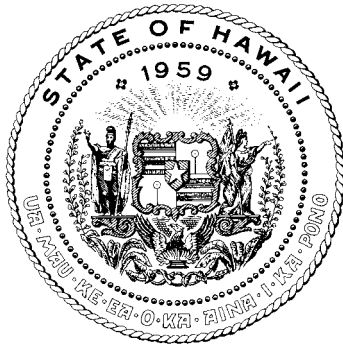


ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2005

RELATING TO THE WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND



Prepared by

THE STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In response to Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Honolulu, Hawaii
December 2004

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2005
WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004**

PURPOSE

Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, amended Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) by adding a requirement for an annual report to be prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) on the status of the Wildlife Revolving Fund (WRF) and transmitted to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to each regular session. The report is to include:

1. The source and application of monies deposited into the fund, including a description of the criteria and process used to determine funding priorities;
2. A description of programs and activities supported by the fund;
3. A summary of program highlights and accomplishments; and
4. A description of future program plans, including specific goals and objectives.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Section 183D-10.5 (b), HRS, provides that proceeds from fees for hunting licenses; game bird farmer and Commercial Hunting Preserve licenses and fees; hunting guide licenses; hunter education training programs and use of public target ranges; fines collected for hunting or wildlife law violations; bail forfeitures; sale of articles required before hunting; and works of art may be deposited into WRF. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-2004, the major sources of revenue were hunting license sales, wildlife stamp sales, game tags and application fees, and the new game bird stamp sales. Sources of revenues are detailed below:

FY 2004 REVENUE

Hunting License Sales	\$116,910
Wildlife Conservation Stamps and Artwork	104,990
Game Tags and Application Fees	76,165
Game Bird Stamp	33,435
Commercial Shooting Preserve Shooting Permits	380
Game Bird Farmer and Commercial Hunting Preserve License and Fees	375
Hunter Education Activities	2,576
Hunting Guide License Fees	830
Circuit Court Fines	250
District Court Fines	0
Sale of Maps and Publications	210
Interest	9,217
Reimbursements	<u>0</u>
TOTAL FOR FY 2004	\$345,338

The total revenue does not include money deposited into WRF as security for habitat conservation plans (\$88,638, not available for any other purpose). Comparable revenue for FY 2004 represented a \$6,041 (1.8%) increase over the previous year. A new fee was established in FY 2004, a requirement to purchase a game bird stamp to hunt game birds. This new fee generated \$33,435 for management of the bird hunting program. No other changes were made from last year in costs or categories of fees for other hunting programs. Revenue did not meet the Department's authorized budget ceiling for WRF of \$416,062. New expenditures totaled \$146,707. The cash balance at the end of the FY amounted to \$364,199 with outstanding encumbrances of \$57,743. Unencumbered cash available for carryover totaled \$306,456.

Status of WRF During FY 04 (S-04-343-C & S-04-344-C)

Beginning Cash Balance of Fund on July 1, 2003:	\$154,760
Less: Liquidation of outstanding encumbrances from prior years:	\$ 46,895
Add: Revenues during FY 04:	\$345,298
Less: Expenditures during FY 04:	\$146,707
Cash Balance as of June 30, 2004:	\$306,456

Less: Unpaid encumbrances for FY04 as of June 30, 2004:	\$ 57,743
Unencumbered Cash for carryover as of June 30, 2004:	\$248,713

FUNDING PRIORITIES

WRF continues to be an important portion of the overall budget to meet obligations of State match and operating and salary expenses for wildlife projects. Because the major source of revenue in WRF is derived from sales of hunting licenses, wildlife stamps used to validate hunting licenses, and game tags and fees, priority was given to expenditures which benefited this user group. In budgeting for WRF, a policy of allotting approximately 85% of the budget for the hunting program has been in place and followed. Approximately 15% of the budget is allocated for nongame and wildlife sanctuary management. Section 183D-10.5(e), HRS, also requires that the State first use WRF monies to "maximize the State's participation to secure federal funds under the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act." Consequently, a priority was given to those expenditures that provided the State match for Pittman-Robertson (PR) projects. Additionally, a major source of revenue during FY04 was game tag and application fees for specific hunts. The Department made a commitment to the hunting public to use those fees to support operations for the program where the fees were assessed. Revenue from tag and application fees was allocated to the Branch Offices of the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) where the hunts occurred.

The allocation of operating funds to DOFAW's Branch Offices was done on a lump sum basis, to be used on eligible projects in the most efficient manner as possible. Salary funds were divided among the Branches to provide each Branch with funding for a full time or part time general laborer position, and to provide funding for a clerk typist to manage the hunting license database. The operating funds were allotted to the Branches based on the respective branch wildlife program size and complexity, and amount of revenue generated from license, stamp, tag, and application fees.

This allotment process put the decision on where and how to use WRF monies at the branch-operational level, where they could be used on the most pressing local needs.

PROCESS USED

1. The Department's Administrative Services Office and DOFAW coordinated to determine the amount of funding available for allocation to DOFAW's Branch Offices.
2. At the beginning of the FY, a portion of the WRF budget was allocated to each DOFAW Branch Office, Honolulu Staff Office for Statewide projects, and the Hunter Education Program of the Department's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement. Allocations are based on the size and complexity of the wildlife program and amount of revenue generated for license sales, stamps, and tag and application fees. A portion of the funding is allocated for temporary personnel to maintain critical wildlife program functions such as hunting license sales data base management, and general laborers to assist with wildlife projects.
3. Each Branch Office was instructed to use their WRF budget to benefit the resources and resource users within the criteria of compliance with the purpose of WRF, to provide state-match requirements for PR projects if needed, and to fall within the percentage distribution for the game and non-game programs.
4. An emphasis was placed on using WRF for expenditures that provided needed infrastructure and improvements to public hunting areas, maintained or provided new public hunting opportunities, or addressed high priority conservation initiatives.
5. Purchase orders were identified and coded as "WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND: S-04-343" to facilitate tracking and accountability.
6. Expenditures complied with approved categories of expenditures for WRF as established by The Board of Land and Natural Resources on August 13, 1993.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS

KAUAI SEGMENT

Hunting Season Management

Monies from WRF were used to purchase game tag materials, the printing of game tags and instructions sheets, and the publication of legal notices regarding hunting seasons. The new Waimea Heights and Puu Opae Sugar Cane Lands Game Bird Hunting Areas were opened, expanding available public game bird hunting area an additional 5,500 acres.

Accomplishment: Materials were produced, made available, and distributed; and hunting seasons and rules were announced. Expenditure: \$3,845

Game Bird Habitat Improvement

A contractor was hired this year to complete a 156 acre vegetation mowing job in the Kekaha Game Management Area (GMA).

Accomplishment: Project was completed. Expenditure: \$5,000

Game Operations and Maintenance (O & M)

Funds were used to purchase 12 heavy-duty automatic game birds feeders, three metal storage containers, wildlife capture equipment, and part of the purchase price of a new vehicle. The feeders will be used in the Kekaha GMA. The capture equipment will be used to trap and translocate game birds to public hunting areas. The WRF was used to provide \$5,436 toward cost of a new truck to be used to maintain and service game bird feeders, checking stations and signs.

Accomplishment: Improve conditions for game birds and provide for relocating game birds as appropriate. Expenditure: \$22,039

Motor Vehicle Repairs and Purchase

Again, the aging fleet of motor vehicles used by DOFAW's Wildlife Section on Kauai required some maintenance and repairs to keep them operational.

Accomplishment: Kept vehicles running. Expenditure: \$1,235

Commissions on Hunting License Sales

WRF monies were used to pay vendors their commission on the sale of 2003-2004 Hawaii Hunting Licenses.

Accomplishment: Hunting licenses available and sold by vendors. Expenditure: \$1,841

Total Wildlife Revolving Fund expenditures for Kauai: \$33,960

FY05 Program Plans:

1. Hire temporary personnel to assist on game development, maintenance, and management projects as necessary - \$10,000 (50% WRF)
2. Provide for the administrative costs, such as legal notices, printing and administration of game tags, announcements of hunting season changes, and additions of new hunting areas - \$2,000 (100% WRF)
3. Continued rearing and release of game birds in Kekaha GMA if drought conditions require it - \$12,000 (100% WRF)
4. Incremental development of a public archery/rifle target range at Hanahanapuni - \$3,000 (100% WRF)
5. Purchase of a pickup truck to replace a vehicle that is beyond economical repair to be used in the conduct of both game and non-game programs on Kauai - \$5,000 (30% WRF)
6. Incremental development of a new game mammal fence and hunter access route along the western boundary of the Kekaha GMA - \$5,000 (50% WRF)

OAHU SEGMENT

The Objectives of the WRF program segment on Oahu were as follows:

1. To maintain and enhance habitat and facilities on Oahu Public Hunting Areas (PHA's and GMA's), and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
2. To improve game bird and game mammal habitat and hunting opportunities on Oahu.

Game Bird Enhancement

WRF monies were used to pay for a portion of the year-round predator control operations provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services Branch. Sixty live traps were deployed in the Kuaokala GMA to remove mongooses, feral cats, and feral dogs.

Accomplishment: Total number of predators removed during FY 03-04 included one feral dog, 45 feral cats, and 266 mongooses. This project was also partially funded by the PR Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Program. Expenditures: \$6,916

Game Bird Habitat Enhancement

WRF money was allocated to purchase lumber for construction and operation of game bird watering units (guzzlers) in the Makua Keaau PHA. Newly acquired lands in Ohikilolo Valley were slated for guzzler construction, but work could not be completed due to damage to the area's access road in October 2003. Road repairs were not completed until July 2004, but the purchase order was extended, making the money available in FY 2005.

Accomplishment: Guzzlers were added, with more planned. Expenditure: \$1,105

Also, five 250-gallon polyethylene water tanks were purchased for guzzlers in Makau Keaau PHA. Accomplishment: Water for game was birds added. Expenditure: \$2,300.

A truck used in game bird O & M was repaired. Expenditure: \$4,153

Oahu Hunting License Vendor Reimbursements

Expenditures: \$4,295

Total WRF Expenditures for Oahu: \$18,769

FY05 Program Plans

1. Hire temporary personnel to perform tasks targeted towards the ongoing management of Oahu District Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) - \$6,860 (100% WRF)
2. Contract the USDA Wildlife Services Branch to hold and transport Gray and Black Francolins from Molokai to Oahu for release in public hunting areas - \$3,500 (100% WRF)
3. Purchase equipment and supplies needed for ongoing O & M in Oahu WMA - \$5,000 (100% WRF)
4. Conduct boundary survey of acquired lands in the Makua Keaau PHA - \$3,000 (100% WRF)

MAUI SEGMENT

Lease of Cooperative Game Management Area-Lanai

Objective: Provide 30,000 acres of land on Lanai for sport hunting and wildlife management.

Accomplishment: The entire annual lease rental for the Lanai Cooperative GMA was paid via WRF monies. Expenditure: \$35,000

Lease of Lands for Hunting Unit "C"-Maui

Objective: To lease 1,000 acres of ranch lands lying between portions of the Kula Forest

Reserve Hunting Unit "C" for sport hunting and wildlife management. Accomplishment: A portion of the lease rent for the Kaonoulou Ranch Cooperate GMA was paid with WRF monies, providing 1,000 acres for sport hunting and wildlife management on Maui. Expenditure: \$600

Contract Services-Data/Lanai Hunts

Objective: With the shortage of clerical staff, coupled with high interest and participation in the Lanai Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts on Lanai, it has become necessary to contract outside support to assure all lottery and non-lottery hunt applications were processed in a timely manner.

Accomplishment: Approximately 4,500 hunter applications were received for the two Lanai hunts. All applicant data was entered, and duplicate applications identified and deleted. Lottery drawings were conducted for muzzle loading and general rifle hunts for both the Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts, with results compiled and disseminated in a timely manner. Expenditure: \$1,928

Full time/Temporary General Laborer-Lanai

Objective: To assist the sole Lanai DOFAW Technician with the upkeep and maintenance of 27 miles of water unit pipeline, and 54 miles of access roads in the Lanai Cooperative GMA.

Accomplishment: Access roads and pipeline units were maintained and kept functional during the entire time period. Expenditure: \$10,000

Temporary – Full Time Wildlife Assistant-Maui Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH)

Objective: To continue to maintain a temporary full time position originally funded via Natural Area Partnership Program's (NAPP) monies, as part of the management scheme for the East Maui Watershed Partnership area to assist in the hunter access program, maintenance of the access road system, signage replacement, transect monitoring, and the gathering and collating of hunter harvest data. Half of this position was funded via WRF. Accomplishment: Objectives achieved. Expenditure: \$6,975

Game Mammal Survey-Lanai

Objective: To conduct game mammal aerial surveys annually over the 30,000-acre Cooperative GMA on Lanai. The results of the surveys are necessary in order to set seasons and bag limits for the 2 game mammal hunts on Lanai. Accomplishment: Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep were surveyed by helicopter and the results of the surveys presented to the Cooperator.

Expenditure: \$6,500

Management of the Lottery Hunts-Lanai

Objective: To prepare and print documents and drawing work for the Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts on Lanai.

Accomplishment: Application cards, instruction sheets, and addendums were printed and distributed; and the lottery was successfully completed. Expenditure: \$3,586.

Game Mammal Facilities O & M-Lanai

Objective: To transport personnel to Lanai for the upkeep and maintenance of the pipeline water units, especially when the location of breaks must be determined somewhere along 27 miles of pipeline.

Accomplishment: Personnel from Maui and Molokai were sent over to Lanai to maintain water units and repair breaks as required. Personnel also assisted with hunter check station operations. Expenditure: \$8,980.

General Game O & M

Objective: To fund unanticipated costs within the segment including supplies and services to maintain hunter accesses and equipment necessary for the continued operation of game facilities.

Accomplishment: Signs were repaired and replaced as necessary. Expenditure: \$500

Commissions on Hunting License Sales

Objective: WRF was used to pay the commission to vendors for the sales of the 2003-2004 Hawaii Hunting Licenses. Expenditure: \$2,060

Total WRF expenditures for Maui District: \$76,129

FY05 Program Plans

1. Fund land lease on Lanai - \$35,000 (100% WRF)
2. Fund land lease on Maui - \$2,600 (25% WRF)
3. Fund Lanai Check Station overtime for DOFAW Technician V
Position - \$2,500 (100% WRF)
4. Fund General Laborer (GL) 1 position for Lanai for facility upkeep and maintenance -
\$22,700 (100% WRF)
5. Fund game mammal facilities development and O & M on Lanai - \$10,000
(100% WRF)
6. Fund game mammal surveys on Lanai - \$8,000 (100% WRF)
7. Fund Koolau Ungulate Monitoring Project - \$24,000 (25% WRF)
8. Fund repair and maintenance of Lanai vehicles - \$1,000 (50% WRF)
9. Fund management of lottery hunts on Lanai; documents printing, data input and drawings -
\$10,000 (100% WRF)
10. Fund signage for areas closed to hunting on Lanai - \$3,000 (100% WRF)
11. Fund temporary-full time Wildlife Assistant position - Maui (RCUH) - \$8,000 (100% WRF)
12. Fund GL I position for Lanai hunter check station work - \$10,000 (100% WRF)

EAST HAWAII SEGMENT

Wildlife Habitat Management:

The Nene habitat at Keaau was cleared of dense stands of non-native vegetation. Twenty acres of wetlands were recovered in time for nesting season. Hand-tools and safety equipment were bought for staff and volunteers. Herbicides were purchased and used in the removal of grass and guava thickets in hunting areas. The work involved in-kind matching contributions using volunteer and prison labor, which qualified for PR cost sharing.

Accomplishment: Habitat was improved. Expenditure: \$2,311

Wildlife O & M:

Seven thousand acres of State lands under special permit agreement were cleared for bird hunting in cooperation with Kapapala Ranch. Fertilizers and insecticides were used on food crop plantings. Predators were removed by trapping and the use of rodenticides. Hunter volunteers helped build ranch fences, to employ grazing of former sugarcane lands as a means of habitat improvement in game bird hunting areas. Newly opened areas were replanted with legumes and durable crop foods. A share of the Wildlife Program's fuel and oil charges were paid for with WRF monies.

Expenditure: \$8,922

Commissions on Hunting License Sales:

WRF monies were used to pay commissions to vendors on the Island of Hawaii for sales of the 2003-2004 Hawaii hunting licenses. Expenditures: \$4,066

Total WRF expenditures for East Hawaii: \$15,299

FY05 Program Plans

1. Expand the current level of services by hiring a GL to do predator control using new and highly effective fish flavored bait blocks, by the purchase of traps for urban pig relocations into hunting areas, weed control in the newly acquired Piipihonua Bird Hunting Area, avian wildlife salvage and rehabilitation, hunter access enhancement at O'okala and Kau, mapping and posting old and new hunting areas, and other public services - \$15,000 (40% WRF)
2. Maintain existing cooperative hunting areas, so that other landowners and managers may see advantage to allowing public hunting in their areas - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
3. Develop habitat in State lease areas for game birds and mammals to expand hunting opportunities on appropriate State lands. Development includes gorse removal, road improvements, and fencing - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
4. Staff will continue to attend and give instruction at Hunter Education classes and assorted hunter focused interest group meetings, to explain wildlife activities and promote wildlife stamp sales to support WRF - \$5,000 (100% WRF)

WEST HAWAII SEGMENT

Equipment Purchase

A 250 gallon water tank was purchased for the Hawaii Bird Hunters organization, to develop a portable water tank for use by volunteers to help DOFAW service water units in GMA's. A gas lantern was purchased for use at the hunter checking station.

Accomplishment: Water was provided for birds and light for hunters checking in before or out after daylight. Expenditure: \$492

Game O & M

Overtime was paid to the equipment operators doing road maintenance on the Mauna Kea Access Road prior to the game bird season.

Accomplishment: Road improvements were completed. Expenditure: \$2,240

Game Program Coordination

Sheep tags were purchased for the Puu Waawaa game mammal hunting season, and legal notices for the annual game bird season were paid for from this account. Aerial game surveys were also paid for out of this account.

Accomplishment: Tags were provided, legal notices published, and surveys completed.

Expenditure: \$4,632

Temporary Hire of GL I, Clerk Typist II

A full-time temporary GL I position was filled in DOFAW's West Hawaii Wildlife Section using WRF monies. The position was used to renovate and construct new guzzlers in the public hunting areas, operate hunter checking stations, enter game harvest data, conduct wildlife habitat improvement projects, post hunting boundaries, assist in monitoring and capture of wildlife, predator control, and other duties as assigned. A one-half time, temporary Clerk Typist II position was filled during the period October-December using WRF monies. The position provided services to the public for sale of hunting licenses and tags, distribution of hunting information, entry and management of the hunting license database, coordination and scheduling of volunteers and responding to hunter inquiries.

Accomplishment: Duties were completed as assigned. Expenditure: \$15,454

Total WRF expenditures for West Hawaii: \$22,818

FY 05 Program Plans

1. Purchase a used truck for O & M on water units and water systems in GMA's - \$9,000 (100% WRF)
2. Build two new water units in the Puu Waawaa GMA - \$12,000 (100% WRF)
3. Hire a half-time GL for O & M - \$8,000 (100% WRF)
4. Pay for legal notices of hunting announcements - \$3,000 (100% WRF)
5. Contract helicopter services for game surveys - \$5,000 (100% WRF)

HONOLULU ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF SEGMENT

Hunting License, Wildlife Conservation Stamp, and Game Bird Stamp Production, Program Sales, and Management:

A portion of the production costs for the FY05 Hawaii Hunting License, duplicate license, Wildlife Conservation Stamp, and Game Bird Stamp were paid from WRF monies.

Expenditures included some of the printing and shipping costs of new licenses and stamps, and a small portion of the printing costs of purchase orders. Also included was a portion of the costs of new computer equipment for the State Hunting Coordinator.

Expenditures: \$11,427

Notification of hunting season openings and changes:

The game bird season announcement, with some bag limit adjustments and new weekday hunting additions in some areas, was published as a legal notice. Expenditures: \$1,388

WRF total expenditures for the Honolulu Office Staff: \$12,815.

FY05 Program Plans

1. Publish notification of game bird hunting season announcement - \$1,400 (100% WRF)
2. Provide for the costs of producing the FY05 hunting license, duplicate license, Wildlife Conservation Stamp, and Game Bird Stamp - \$7,700 (75% WRF)